

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Please amend claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 18, 24, and 30, and add new claims 31-35, as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A foam construction block, comprising:

a rectangular molded block of foam forming at least one horizontally-extending void and at least one vertically-extending void, at least one of the vertically-extending voids extending between the top and bottom surfaces of said block, and at least one of the horizontally-extending voids extending between the side surfaces of said block, at least one of said horizontally-extending voids intersecting at least one of said vertically-extending voids; and

an outer member including a facing layer adapted to substantially cover an exterior surface of the molded block and a non-planar mesh member having a plurality of first portions embedded within the facing layer and a plurality of second portions embedded within the molded block, the outer member being a facing bonded to an exterior surface of said block during the molding of the block, said facing being adapted to cover substantially all of the exterior surface of the block to which it is adhered.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The foam construction block of claim 1 wherein said facing comprises two facing pieces adhered to said block of foam in abutting relation, such that said block of foam is ~~may be~~ cut transversely into two pieces, each of which has one of said facing pieces adhered thereto.

Claim 3 (cancelled).

Claim 4 (cancelled).

Claim 5 (currently amended): The foam construction block of claim 1 4 wherein said mesh member material comprises a wire mesh.

Claim 6 (original): The foam construction block of claim 5 wherein said wire mesh comprises chicken wire.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The foam construction block of claim 1 wherein said block of foam comprises urethane foam.

Claims 8-17 (cancelled).

Claim 18 (currently amended): A foam construction block, comprising a molded block of foam ~~of rectangular horizontal and vertical cross section~~, said block having first and second ends, first and second side faces, and upper and lower faces, and having at least one horizontally-extending void formed along one of the upper and lower surfaces and extending between said end faces, and having a facing member including a facing layer adapted to substantially cover an exterior surface of the molded block and a non-planar mesh member having a plurality of first portions embedded within the facing layer and a plurality of second portions embedded within the molded block, attached to the block of foam, the facing member being attached to the block of foam simultaneously with the molding of the block of foam.

Claim 19 (original): The block of claim 18 wherein said foam block is a urethane foam block.

Claims 20-23 (cancelled)

Claim 24 (previously presented): The block of claim 18 wherein the facing consists of cement.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The block of claim 24 wherein said foam block is a urethane foam block.

Claim 26-29 (withdrawn).

Claim 30 (previously presented): The foam construction block of claim 1 wherein said facing consists of cement.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The foam construction block of claim 1 wherein the block further includes at least one tapered void formed in the block body and extending between the upper and lower surfaces.

Claim 32 (currently amended): The block of claim 18 wherein at least one of the vertically-extending voids comprises a tapered void.-

Claim 33 (currently amended): The block of claim 18 ~~32~~ wherein said mesh member ~~material~~ comprises a wire mesh.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The block of claim 33 wherein said wire mesh comprises chicken wire.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The block of claim 18 wherein the block has at least one tapered void formed in the block body and extending between the upper and lower surfaces.

Claim 36 (new): A construction block, comprising:
 a molded block of polymeric material; and
 an outer member including a facing layer adapted to substantially cover an exterior surface of the molded block and a non-planar mesh member having a plurality of first portions embedded within the facing layer and a plurality of second portions embedded within the molded block, the mesh member thereby securing the outer member to the molded block.

Claim 37 (new): The construction block of Claim 36 wherein the non-planar mesh member comprises an undulating metallic mesh member.

Claim 38 (new): The construction block of Claim 36 wherein the non-planar mesh member comprises an undulating wire mesh member.

Claim 39 (new): The construction block of Claim 36 wherein the non-planar mesh member is approximately co-extensive with the facing layer.